AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A particular program detection device for detecting a particular program segment in a program signal including ~~at least~~ audio data of a program, the <u>particular program detection</u> device comprising:

a noise level detecting section operable to detect a noise level of the audio data included in the program signal;

a detection sensitivity determining section operable to determine a detection sensitivity <u>for detecting</u> ~~which is used when~~ a particular program <u>in the program signal</u> ~~is detected,</u> the detection sensitivity being determined</u> based on the noise level detected by the noise level detecting section;

a silent portion detecting section operable to <u>(i) set a threshold value, the set threshold value being a minimum hold value representing a minimum value of the audio data included in the program signal, wherein the set minimum hold value increases over time, (ii) change a rate of the increase of the minimum hold value</u> ~~detect a silent portion of the audio data included in the program signal in accordance with~~ <u>according to</u> the detection sensitivity determined by the detection sensitivity determining section<u>, and (iii) detect a silent portion of the audio data included in the program signal using the set threshold value</u>; and

a particular program determining section operable to determine a time interval between each silent portion detected by the silent portion detecting section to determine [[a]] <u>the</u> particular program segment.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The particular program detection device according to claim 1, further comprising:

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a noise level learning section operable to learn an association between ~~of~~ the noise level currently detected by the noise level detecting section and a previously detected ~~with a~~ noise level ~~which has been detected in the past~~; and

a noise level storing section operable to store a learned noise level ~~learnt~~ by the noise level learning section,

wherein the detection sensitivity determining section determines [[a]] the detection sensitivity ~~which is used when a particular program is detected,~~ based on the learned ~~learnt~~ noise level stored in the noise level storing section.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) The particular program detection device according to claim 2, ~~further comprising~~

wherein the particular program detection device further comprises a program information obtaining section operable to obtain program information from the program signal,

wherein the noise level storing section stores the learned noise level ~~learnt by the noise level learning section~~ in association with the program information obtained by the program information obtaining section, and

wherein the detection sensitivity determining section obtains the ~~learnt~~ learned noise level associated with the program information from the noise level storing section in accordance with the program information obtained by the program information obtaining section, and determines the learned ~~learnt~~ noise level as [[a]] the detection sensitivity ~~which is~~ to be used when [[a]] the particular program is detected.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended)   The particular program detection device according to claim 1, further comprising a broadcast reception section operable to receive broadcast waves carried in the program signal, and operable to output the received program signal to the noise level detecting section and the silent portion detecting section.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended)   The particular program detection device according to claim 1, further comprising a data read section operable to read the program signal from a storage device in which the program signal is recorded, and operable to output the read program signal to the noise level detecting section and the silent portion detecting section.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Currently Amended)   The particular program detection device according to claim 6 claim 1, wherein, when [[a]] the particular program is a CM, a time constant, which causes [[a]] the increase of the minimum hold value, to increase is determined, such so that the increase of the minimum hold value is clipped to a predetermined value in 15 seconds, which is a minimum time which can be taken by a CM.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended)   A particular program detection method which is executed by a device for detecting a particular program segment in a program signal including at least audio data of a program, the particular program detection method comprising the steps of:

      detecting a noise level of the audio data included in the program signal;

determining a detection sensitivity for detecting which is used when a particular program

in the program signal is detected, the detection sensitivity being determined based on the

detected noise level;

setting a threshold value, the set threshold value being a minimum hold value

representing a minimum value of the audio data included in the program signal, wherein the set

minimum hold value increases over time;

changing a rate of the increase of the minimum hold value according to the determined

detection sensitivity;

detecting a silent portion of the audio data included in the program signal using the set

threshold value in accordance with the determined detection sensitivity; and

determining a time interval between each detected silent portion to determine [[a]] the

particular program segment.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable recording medium

having a program recorded thereon, the computer recordable program which causes a particular

causing a program detection device to execute a method of detecting a particular program

segment in a program signal including at least audio data of a program, the method comprising

program causing the particular program detection device to execute the steps of:

detecting a noise level of the audio data included in the program signal;

determining a detection sensitivity for detecting which is used when a particular program

in the program signal is detected, the detection sensitivity being determined based on the

detected noise level;

setting a threshold value, the set threshold value being a minimum hold value

representing a minimum value of the audio data included in the program signal, wherein the set

minimum hold value increases over time;

changing a rate of the increase of the minimum hold value according to the determined

detection sensitivity;

detecting a silent portion of the audio data included in the program signal using the set

threshold value ~~in accordance with the determined detection sensitivity~~; and

determining a time interval between each detected silent portion to determine [[a]] the

particular program segment.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended)   An integrated circuit for use in a particular program

detection device for detecting a particular program segment in a program signal including ~~at least~~

audio data of a program, wherein the integrated circuit includes circuits functioning as ~~the~~

~~following sections are integrated~~:

a noise level detecting section operable to detect a noise level of the audio data included

in the program signal;

a detection sensitivity determining section operable to determine a detection sensitivity

for detecting ~~which is used when~~ a particular program in the program signal ~~is detected~~, the

detection sensitivity being determined based on the noise level detected by the noise level

detecting section;

a silent portion detecting section operable to (i) set a threshold value, the set threshold

value being a minimum hold value representing a minimum value of the audio data included in

the program signal, wherein the set minimum hold value increases over time, (ii) change a rate of

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the increase of the minimum hold value ~~detect a silent portion of the audio data included in the~~ ~~program signal in accordance with~~ according to the detection sensitivity determined by the detection sensitivity determining section, and (iii) detect a silent portion of the audio data included in the program signal using the set threshold value; and

a particular program determining section operable to determine a time interval between each silent portion detected by the silent portion detecting section to determine [[a]] the particular program segment.